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00862.023510.

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
Group Art Unit: 2614
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February 9, 2005

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

For concise explanation of relevance of the non-English documents, the Examiner is referred to the enclosed English-language abstracts, to pages 3-8 of the specification, and to the cited English-language counterparts (Applicants note that Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 10-98722A corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 6,496,605 B1; Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 4-239886A corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 5,327,246 and Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 2000-245179A corresponds to WO 00/38309).

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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FORM PTO 1449 (modified) ATTY DOCKET NO. APPLICATION NO.								
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCEP E			00862.023510.			10/809,526		
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)				APPLICANT HISASHI ISHIKAWA ET AL.				
(Use several sheets if negessary) FEB 1 0 2005			FILING DATE			GROUP		
				March 26, 2004			N.Y.A.	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS								
*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE		NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
	5,327,246	07/05/	194	Suzuki	348	246		
	5,436,981	07/25/	95	lshikawa	382	173		
	6,084,984	07/04/	00	Ishikawa	382	173		
	6,496,605 B1	12/17/	02	Osa	382	268		
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE		COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT	
	JP 2004-015322 A	01/15/	04	JAPAN			Abstract	
	JP 4-235472 A	08/24/	92	JAPAN			Abstract	
	JP 2000-245179 A	09/08/	00	JAPAN			Abstract & Counterpart	
	WO00/38309	06/29/	00	WIPO			Abstract	
	JP 8-56357 A	02/27/	96	JAPAN			Abstract	
	JP 10-98722 A	04/14/	98	JAPAN			Abstract & Counterpart	
	JP 7-75103 A	03/17/	95	JAPAN			Abstract	
	JP 4-239886 A	08/27/	92	JAPAN			Abstract & Counterpart	
	JP 3161427 B2	04/25/	01	JAPAN			Abstract	
	JP 7-203210 A 08/04		95	JAPAN			Abstract	
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)								
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED				

Sheet 1 of 1

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.